



NOTES FROM THE:

Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service—Denver Center

by Mr Steve E. Turner

Boot Camp Training Initiative

DFAS and the Air Force recently combined forces on a joint training initiative that taught over 4,000 Air Force financial management personnel throughout the CONUS and Pacific regions.

This “Boot Camp” training, formally called “Resource Management in a Consolidated Environment,” provides a tool kit for the base-level resource advisor/budget analyst community to successfully operate in today’s consolidated environment.

According to resource advisors, budget analysts, and accounting liaison personnel, they gained valuable insight on current business practices. DFAS Operating Locations (OPLOCs) had an opportunity to meet and hear about their base-level customers’ problems and concerns, and work together to improve the flow of accounting data and documentation from each Air Force installation. The training improved communication between the OPLOCs and their base-level customers.

The idea began during a customer service visit to the Aeronautical Systems Center (ASC) in Dayton OH. ASC requested DFAS provide post-consolidation guidance to their resource management community. The Honorable Robert F. Hale, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Financial Management and Comptroller, recognized the need and asked that the training be expanded Air Force-wide and become a joint DFAS/Air Force effort.

Mr Hale’s request kicked off development of the course. In April 1997, a team of representatives from DFAS-Denver, SAF/FMPC, the Air Force MAJCOMs, the Comptroller Training Flight at Sheppard AFB TX, and the DFAS OPLOCs developed a comprehensive course curriculum which included the DFAS organization and mission, available communication mediums, post-consolidation roles and responsibilities, available operating and query systems, system output products, the Prompt Payment Act, obligation adjustments, fiscal year-end close-out procedures, and unique processes at Air Force Materiel Command bases, where applicable.

In July 1997, instructors from each OPLOC performed “dry run” training for 250 ASC employees. All OPLOC instructors participated in the final development workshop held in October 1997 at the San Antonio OPLOC. Feedback helped the instructors prepare to begin the training in earnest.

“Boot Camp” training began Air Force-wide in November 1997. DFAS instructors completed the training by June 1998, prior to the beginning of the fiscal year 1998 close-out process. Air Force members at each base coordinated logistics, so this effort was truly an example of DFAS and the Air Force working together.

The staff at SAF/FMPC is considering incorporating the “Boot Camp” material into a computer-based, resource advisor course for Air Force use. This training can enhance the base-level Comptrollers’ training to their community, and will exemplify how DFAS and the Air Force can work together to further improve the finance and accounting processes.

Air Force Security Assistance Account Manager Appointed

To better serve our Air Force customers we have appointed Mr Michael L. Kennedy as the Air Force Security Assistance Account Manager. Mr Kennedy is the Director, Security Assistance Accounting Operations, Defense Finance and Accounting Service—Denver Center. In this role, he will help our Air Force customers resolve unique security assistance accounting issues. As the account manager, he will serve as the point of contact when you’re unsure who to contact. If you need help in the security assistance accounting area call Mr Kennedy at (303) 676-6038, DSN 926-6038, FAX (303) 676-8305. Mailing address:

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